

42P17465

Remarks

Reconsideration of this application is requested. By this response to the Office Action, claims 1 and 6 were amended. A listing of claims and the actions taken is included in this amendment. Claims 1-22 remain in the application.

Objections to claim 6

The Office Action objects to claim 6 and the antecedent basis for the element "first omni-directional antenna". The amended language of claim 6 is believed to overcome the objection.

Response to the 35 U.S.C. §102(e) Rejection

The Office Action rejected claims 1-3 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Ishidoshiro (U.S. Publication No. U.S. 2004/0077361).

Claims 1-4

Applicant's claim 1 recites, among other things, an access point that includes a first and second sectored antenna to operate simultaneously in a transmit mode, where a combination of the first and second sectored antennas provides a virtual omni-directional antenna.

Support for Applicant's amended claim language can be found in the figures in FIGs. 2 and 3 and in the specification on page 5, lines 1-4.

Ishidoshiro illustrates in FIG. 1 and 2 a radio base station 10a that includes sector antennas 115a, 115b and 115c, with each sector antenna having directional characteristics in different directions (Paragraph 0031, lines 6-10). The sector antennas receive radio wave signals from other wireless clients located in a radio zone. A detection module 160 is activated to compare differences between levels of the received radio wave signals. The detection module includes a direction detection function to detect the direction of the wireless client relative to the radio base station 10a and a distance detection function to detect the distance of the wireless client from the radio base station. Ishidoshiro states in lines 24-26 that the number of sector antennas may be increased to enhance the accuracy of the detected position.

42P17465

Thus, Ishidoshiro teaches multiple sector antennas 115a, 115b and 115c in order to measure differences that may exist between levels of the received radio wave signals. Ishidoshiro uses the measured level differences to determine distance and direction information. Note that Ishidoshiro teaches the use of the multiple sector antennas in a receive mode only and is silent on the use of the multiple sector antennas in a transmit mode, and therefore, Ishidoshiro does not teach Applicant's claimed invention.

Applicant's amended claim 1 recites a first and second sectored antenna to operate simultaneously in a transmit mode. This feature of Applicant's claim is not taught or suggested by Ishidoshiro. Accordingly, the prior art reference of Ishidoshiro cannot anticipate Applicant's claim 1. Further, Applicant's amended claim 1 recites that the combination of the first and second sectored antennas provides a virtual omni-directional antenna. Ishidoshiro does not teach this configuration of the first and second sectored antennas combined to provide a virtual omni-directional antenna. Since this feature is not taught or suggested by the replied upon reference, Applicant's amended claim 1 is not anticipated by Ishidoshiro and the rejection should be removed.

Claims 2-5 directly depend from base claim 1 and are believed allowable over the art of record for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

Response to the 35 U.S.C. §103 Rejection

The Office Action rejected claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Ishidoshiro (U.S. Publication No. U.S. 2004/0077361) in view of Louhi (U.S. Patent No. 6,707,425). The Office Action also rejected claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Ishidoshiro (U.S. Publication No. U.S. 2004/0077361) in view of Ueda (U.S. Patent No. 5,548,807).

Claims 4 and 5 directly depend from base claim 1 and are believed allowable over the art of record for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

42P17465

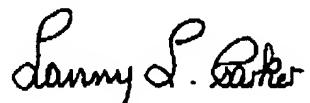
Conclusion

The foregoing is submitted as a full and complete response to the Office Action mailed July 26, 2005, and reconsideration of the objections and rejections is requested. It is submitted that claims 1-5 are now in condition for allowance, along with the previously allowed claims 6-22. Allowance of claims 1-5 is now earnestly solicited.

Should it be determined that an additional fee is due under 37 CFR §1.16 or 1.17, or any excess fee has been received, please charge that fee or credit the amount of overcharge to deposit account #50-0221.

If the Examiner believes that there are any informalities that can be corrected by an Examiner's amendment, a telephone call to the undersigned at (480) 715-5388 is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
Qinghua Li



Lanny L. Parker
Patent Agent
Reg. No. 44,281

c/o Blakely, Sokoloff, Taylor & Zafman, LLP
12400 Wilshire Blvd., Seventh Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90025-1026
(503) 264-0967